

Monthly Meeting Report in October

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Programme:	PhD in Economics
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1 The Goal of First-Year Study

1. Q: What is the goal/annual review for first-year study? If it is 10,000 word research proposal, what about writing the thesis?

A: 10,000 word research proposal is the main goal for the first-year and some contents of the research proposal could be part of my thesis. I should attend some advanced training courses, too.

2. Q: What shall we (supervisor and PGR student) do together for the first semester?

A: Selected research topics that supervisors will send to me later.

2 GRS2 Form

1. Q: Shall we set up a regular date for monthly meeting? I will complete Part A of GRS2 form for the first week of the month to let you have enough time to complete other parts.

A: Friday of the second week of each month

3 Research Plan, Literature Review and Discussion

1. Q: I would like to separate my forecasting model into two parts: Panel forecasting & Machine learning forecasting, is it okay if:

(a) For the panel part, I would like to use PVAR-related models and Bayesian Econometrics (e.g. Gary Koop and Dimitris Korobilis)

(b) For the machine learning part, there are so many models! such as decision tree, naive bayesian, neural networks and support vector machine, etc. How to choose models between them?

A: For the first question, maybe we could separate my research related panel into two parts: inference and forecasting. For the other, try to narrow down the research area and focus on one point during my PhD.

2. Q: Compared with empirical analysis, it would take me several days, even weeks to truly understand (or maybe I could not understand for most of the time) an idea in paper as there are so many mathematics stuff in their instead of economics conclusion.

A: It should take me sometime to get there. At the beginning, it would be difficult to understand these sophisticated techniques and I could see some similar techniques in different papers.

3. Q: Compared with empirical analysis, We will focus on the accuracy of forecasting results and we donot have so much economics interpretations. Will that be too simple for a conclusion?

4 Task for the Next Month

1. Try to select a specified research topics that supervisors will send to me later.
2. Write a one-page report for each listed paper, summarizing the model and the hypotheses of interest. Mention also limitations – things that they are not allowed.